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(54) Title: NOVEL ANTISENSE OLIGOMERS AND USE THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the use of a novel type of antisense oligomers for use in the *in vitro* or *in vivo* inhibition of gene expression of a target gene. These oligomers, called exon-bridging oligomers are complementary to those parts of a spliced mRNA which are derived from two adjacent exons in the primary RNA transcript, and are called exon-bridging antisense oligomers. These oligomers have no complementarity to genomic DNA. These oligomers can be used to perform antisense inhibition with less aspecific binding to genomic DNA. The exon-bridging oligomers are suitable for inhibiting Interleukin1 type I Receptor in, for instance, chondrocytes, and are suitable for the prevention or treatment of osteoarthritis.

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